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CONTACT REPORT DATE: 30 June 1972

AGENT: IUSTEER/1 CASE OFFICER: Peter S. JASUTIS

PLACE: Westward Ho Restaurant,
SW 8 St. and 49th Ave.

1. Contact was initiated with IUSTEER/1 to discuss Roberto de Cardenas. Cardenas was previously described by IUSTEER/1 as an individual who once worked for the Agency both in Miami and the Congo. He is a friend of Barker, of the Washington breakin scandal. Cardenas was unemployed until early 1972 but now, suddenly, he is traveling to South America and has become affluent. IUSTEER/1 speculated that Cardenas may be dealing in narcotics.

2. Also note a New York Times article of 28 June concerning the Washington breakin affair. This article states that an individual appeared on the Miami scene about two months ago and recruited the team for the breakin. The recruiter was described as a "pipe smoker" who used a code name during the recruitments. Cardenas smokes a pipe all the time according to IUSTEER/1.

3. IUSTEER/1 is sceptical of the NYT article, as written, because in his opinion no Cuban could be recruited by an unknown individual using a code name. Considering the clandestine/operational mentality of the many Cubans in the Miami area, recruitments could only be made by a known recruiter with adequate bona fides.

4. Information on Cardenas supplied by IUSTEER/1:

a. Cardenas was born about 1919. In 1954 he was a captain with Cubana Airlines. In 1954-55 he was arrested in Havana by a Major Ochoa for smuggling cocaine. Due to political pull Cardenas was not prosecuted but was fired from his position. He retired to his farm in Cuba from 1954-1959.

b. From 1959 to 1960 he was in the Castro airforce. There he met Fiorini, also involved in the Washington breakin scandal. In 1960, in Miami, IUSTEER/1 was visiting in the Fiorini home when Cardenas dropped in. Also present was DIAZ LANZ, former Chief of the Castro airforce. Cardenas was

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then working closely with Barker in Cuban exile (unity) activity on behalf of Artime. At the time Cardenas met IUSTEER/1 at the Fiorini home, he told IUSTEER/1 to go to a house on Brickell Ave. IUSTEER/1 did and there he met Artime for the first time.

c. (At this time a Case Officer named "Jimmy" was handling both Barker and Cardenas. "Jimmy" spoke excellent Cuban Spanish.)

d. From 1962 to 1965 Cardenas worked with the Agency under the cover firm Consolidated Engineering. (Cardenas' Case Officer during this period was Chris Frederick.)

e. In 1965 the Agency sent Cardenas to IUSTEER/1 for duty in the Congo. In the Congo Cardenas claimed to have a heart attack and was hospitalized. He was later proven medically sound and released from his Congo assignment.

f. During 1967-1968 Cardenas drove a truck in the Miami area. Between 1969 and 1970-71 Cardenas sold mutual funds in South America (GRAMCO and others). This ended when the funds went bankrupt.

g. In 1971 Cardenas was economically down. In early 1972 he started traveling again and became affluent. IUSTEER/1 believes Cardenas is involved in drugs.